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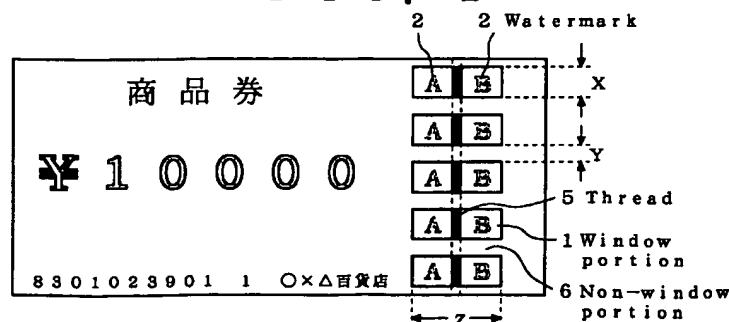
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(54) FORGERY PREVENTIVE SHEET AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SAME

(57) Anti-falsification paper in which a thread is exposed at window portions provided on the surface of the paper, and which does not produce any cockles even when wound up continuously in a roll and has good appearance in terms of design is provided. This anti-falsification prevention paper is combination paper having at least two paper layers including an outermost layer and the other layer. Window portions are formed in the outermost layer at intervals in a longitudinal direction of the paper. In the window portions there are formed watermarks of letters or pictures, and a thread

inserted between the outermost layer and the other layer is exposed at these window portions. The ratio between the length (X) of the window portions in the longitudinal direction of the paper and the length (Y) in the same direction of non-window portions between the window portions is set at 3:1 to 1:2 to securely prevent the formation of cockles during the winding of paper. This setting of the length ratio of the window portions to the non-window portions also offers preferable effect on the design.

FIG. 1



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Description

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to anti-falsification paper and a method of manufacture thereof, and more specifically to anti-falsification paper, called "thread-inserted, window paper," in which a thread inserted between combined paper layers making up the anti-falsification paper is exposed at windows provided in the outermost paper layer, and to a method of making such anti-falsification paper.

Background Art

Anti-falsification paper called "thread-inserted paper" is well known, in which an elongate element is inserted in the thickness of paper. A typical example of the elongate element is a thread described hereinbelow. Paper with inserted threads requires very sophisticated technologies to manufacture and thus has a significant effect for anti-falsification. It is therefore widely used for making bank notes in many countries.

Thread-inserted paper may be classified largely into two categories. The first is the paper which has an elongate element embedded therein so that it is not exposed to the surface of the paper. The second is the one called "thread-inserted, window paper," in which a part of the inserted elongate element is exposed to the surface of the paper.

A variety of methods have been proposed for making the first category of paper. They include a method disclosed in Japanese Patent Laid-Open Specification No. 51-130309/1976, in which a nozzle is laid in the flow of paper stock in a slice portion of a Fourdrinier paper machine and an elongate element is supplied through the nozzle along with running water to be embedded in a web deposited on a wire cloth; a method disclosed in Japanese Patent Laid-Open Specification No. 2-169790/1990, in which an elongate element incorporating device is used to incorporate an elongate element into the paper stock flowing from a flow box of a Fourdrinier paper machine by supplying the elongate element with an air flow that keeps the elongate element and the stock out of contact with each other; and a method disclosed in Japanese Patent Publication No. 5-40080/1993, in which a cylinder paper machine having two or more vats is used to combine two or more paper layers and an elongate element is fed from a pipe having projections and recesses in its inner wall to be inserted between the paper layers.

As the methods of making the second category of paper, the "thread-inserted, window paper", there are proposed a method disclosed in Japanese Patent Publication No. 5-85680/1993, in which a grooved belt mechanism with an elongate element passed through a raised end of a guide having recessed and raised portions is immersed in a suspension of paper stock on

wire cloth; a method disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4462866, in which a wire mesh having raised portions is used for a face wire of a cylinder paper machine and an elongate element is incorporated in the thickness of paper as the elongate element is fed in contact with the raised portions of the wire mesh so that the elongate element is incorporated in paper and exposed at window portions; and a method disclosed in Japanese Patent Specification Laid-Open No. 6-272200/1994, in which a compressed air nozzle is installed in a rotating drum of wire cloth in a Fourdrinier paper machine to intermittently blow away pulp slurry deposited over an elongate element embedded in web so that the elongate element is exposed.

"Watermarked paper" having watermarks of letters or pictures also requires a high level of technology to manufacture and has long been used for anti-falsification. Because the anti-falsification effectiveness increases with the number of anti-falsification means employed in the anti-falsification paper, a variety of anti-falsification paper has been developed which combine the above-mentioned "thread-inserted, window paper" technology with the "watermarking" technology. One such example is sterling notes used in England, which has thread-inserted windows at predetermined locations and a watermarked portrait at a different location.

These conventional paper has a common drawback that the paper cannot be rolled up in a great length. Because the thread normally has a thickness of several tens of micrometer and is continuously inserted or embedded at a particular position of the paper, when the paper is rolled up, the paper thickness at the location where the thread is inserted progressively increases until cockles are produced at that location. Our investigation has found that when a thread of about 15 μm thick is continuously inserted in paper of 100g/m², rolling about 1000 meters of the paper results in cockles being produced at the thread inserted location. Once cockles are produced, the paper rolled up thereafter is not adequate for use. Whether the paper can be wound up in roll has a great effect on productivity at a later process where the paper is subjected to printing, since the paper must be bundle-finished if it cannot be rolled up.

In anti-falsification paper that uses the "thread-inserted, window paper" technology and the "watermarking" technology at different locations, printing is difficult to be performed at the "thread-inserted, window" portion and the "watermarked" portion. If they are to be printed, only very light colors can be used. This reduces the area on paper where decorative printing can be made, giving rise to a limitation on the design to be printed.

Disclosure of the Invention

The present invention has been accomplished to provide novel and improved anti-falsification paper that

can eliminate the conventional problems described above and also a method of manufacturing such anti-falsification paper.

The cause of cockles formed when winding the thread-inserted paper in a roll during the process of manufacture of the paper is that the thickness of paper locally increases because of the inserted or embedded thread as described above. The inventors of this invention have conducted studies under the assumption that cockles could be eliminated if the paper thickness was partially reduced in such a way as to offset the localized increase in paper thickness. The inventors have found that the above problem can be solved by providing in the paper surface window portions of particular size whose paper thickness is reduced and inserting a thread so that it is exposed in these window portions. With this method, however, when the paper is held to the light, the windows as a whole look white and transparent giving unnatural impressions. The inventors conducted further research and found that this drawback can be eliminated by watermarking letters or pictures in the window portions and that restrictions on the printing design can be eliminated by forming both the "thread-inserted window" portions and the "watermarked" portions in the same locations in the paper. Forming watermarks in the window portions prevents the paper thickness of the entire window portions from becoming small, which in turn effectively prevents the formation of cockles when winding the paper in a roll.

The anti-falsification paper of this invention comprises: combination paper having at least two paper layers including an outermost layer and the other layer; window portions provided in the outermost layer so that they are arranged at intervals in a longitudinal direction of the outermost layer; watermarks of letters or pictures formed in the window portions; and a thread inserted between the outermost layer and the other layer, the thread being exposed at the window portions.

At this time, the ratio between the length (X) of the window portions in the longitudinal direction of the paper and the length (Y) in the same direction of non-window portions between the window portions is set at 3:1 to 1:2 to thereby securely prevent the formation of cockles when winding the paper continuously in a roll and also to offer preferable effect on the design on the paper surface.

The method of manufacturing the above anti-falsification paper according to this invention comprises the steps of:

in making combination paper having at least two paper layers including an outermost layer and the other layer by using a cylinder paper machine provided with multiple vats;

(a) forming the other layer in a vat in front of a final vat and then forming in the final vat the outermost layer having window portions

arranged at intervals in a direction of flow of the paper layer and also forming watermarks of letters or pictures in the window portions; or

(b) forming in a first vat the outermost layer having window portions arranged at intervals in a direction of flow of the paper layer and also having watermarks of letters or pictures formed in the window portions, and then forming in a second or subsequent vat the other layer; and

immediately before putting the outermost layer and the other layer together, inserting a thread between the layers so that the thread runs through the window portions of the outermost layer;

whereby combination paper is produced, in which the watermarks are formed in the window portions of the outermost layer and the thread is exposed at the window portions.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a plan view of an example of a gift certificate that uses anti-falsification paper of this invention;

Figure 2 is an enlarged view of a window portion of Figure 1 as seen from above;

Figure 3 is an end view cut along the line A-A' of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a schematic view showing a cylinder paper machine provided with multiple vats that can suitably be used for the method of this invention;

Figure 5 is a partial schematic view showing a mold for making window portions and watermarks, mounted on a face wire of a cylinder used in the cylinder paper machine of Figure 4;

Figure 6 is a schematic view showing another example of the cylinder paper machine provided with multiple vats that can suitably be applied for the method of this invention; and

Figure 7 is a partial schematic view showing a mold for making window portions and watermarks, mounted on a face wire of a cylinder used in the cylinder paper machine of Figure 6.

Best Mode for Carrying out the Invention

The anti-falsification paper of this invention will be described by taking an example of a gift certificate that uses the anti-falsification paper comprising combination paper having two paper layers, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. The anti-falsification paper shown has two paper layers, an outermost layer 3 and another layer 4, and the outermost layer 3 has window portions 1 intermittently arranged in a longitudinal direction (i.e., the flow direction of the paper layer during paper making), with watermarks 2 of letters or pictures in the window portions 1. A thread 5 is inserted between the outermost layer 3 and the layer 4 adjacent thereto and is exposed

at the window portions 1.

This invention also provides a method of securely and efficiently making anti-falsification paper of such a construction as described above.

In practicing the method of making the anti-falsification paper of this invention, a paper stock must first be prepared. The stock is made by mixing and beating an appropriate ratio of wood pulps such as conifer bleached kraft pulp (NBKP), broad-leaved tree bleached kraft pulp (LBKP) and conifer bleached sulfite pulp (NBSP) and non-wood pulps such as hemp, cotton and straw, and adding appropriate amounts of filler, dry paper strength agent, wet paper strength agent, sizing agent, fixing agent, retention aid, drainage aid, anti-foaming agent, dye, coloring pigment, fluorescent agent, etc. until the freeness is adjusted ordinarily to 400-250 ml C.S.F.

In making combination paper having two or more paper layers, a cylinder paper machine provided with multiple vats is generally used. This invention, too, can use such a cylinder paper machine. Figure 4 shows a cylinder paper machine provided with two vats used to form combination paper having two paper layers 3, 4 (Figure 3). This machine includes a first vat 11 (in front of a final vat) to form a paper layer 4, which has neither window portions 1 nor watermarks 2, and a second vat 12 (final vat) for forming an outermost paper layer 3 having window portions 1 and watermarks 2.

The cylinder 12a in the vat 12 has a face wire 12b to which is attached by a fine metal wire, solder or bonding agent a mold 13, as shown in Figure 5, that corresponds to the window portion 1 and is made of metal, resin or paper. Although the mold 13 corresponding to the window portion is rectangular in this example shown, it may be formed square, circle or oval or in other desired shapes. The mold 13 is provided with perforated portions 13a that are formed by through-holes to make watermarks 2 of letters or pictures.

In mounting the molds 13 of Figure 5 to the face wire 12b of the cylinder dipped in the vat 12 for making the outermost layer 3, it is desirable that the molds 13 are spaced from each other so that the ratio of a length X of the window portion 1 in the direction of flow of the paper layer (longitudinal direction of paper) indicated by an arrow W to a length Y in the same direction of a non-window portion 6 between the window portions is set in a range of between 3:1 and 1:2. The reason why the space ratio of the window portion 1 is set in this range is that this range of the space ratio ensures the above-mentioned cockle prevention effect when winding the paper in a roll and also is desirable in terms of design on the paper surface.

The cylinder 11a in the vat 11 of the cylinder paper machine of Figure 4 is provided with a face wire onto which no mold is mounted. The paper layer 4 deposited on the cylinder 11a having the mold-free face wire is transferred onto a blanket 14 and then carried to the cylinder 12a, which is mounted with the molds 13 and

dipped in the vat 12, where the outermost layer 3 formed by the cylinder 12a is stacked on the first layer 4 to form a two-layer combined sheet. A thread 5 is inserted at a location indicated by an arrow V immediately before the layer 4 and the layer 3 are combined together. It may be inserted at a location indicated by an arrow V' before the cylinder 12a goes into a suspension of paper stock in the vat 12. The methods of inserting the thread 5 include one in which the thread is fed through a supply pipe having projections and recesses in its inner wall, as proposed by the above-mentioned Japanese Patent Publication No. 5-40080/1993 filed by the same applicant of this application, a method proposed by the above-mentioned U.S. Patent No. 4462866, and the like.

Although the molds 13 attached to the cylinder 12a are shown simplified only at scattered locations in Figure 4, it is understood that they actually are attached to the entire circumference of the cylinder 12a in a spaced configuration.

By using the above-described method of this invention, the anti-falsification paper of a configuration shown in Figures 1 to 3 can be manufactured. That is, the outermost paper layer 3 deposited on the cylinder 12a having the molds 13 is formed with window portions 1 that are not deposited with paper stock at locations corresponding to the molds 13 and in which are formed watermarks 2 of letters or pictures deposited with the paper stock. The thread 5 is inserted between the paper layers 3 and 4 so that it runs through the window portions 1. Hence, the thread 5 is exposed at window portions 1 and embedded between the layers 3 and 4 at the non-window portions 6.

In the method of manufacturing anti-falsification paper according to this invention, it is possible to apply starch, polyvinyl alcohol and various surface sizing agents to the paper surface by using a size press device and the like during paper making. Further, the paper may be subjected to machine calender treatment or super calender treatment, as required, to improve surface smoothness.

The thread 5 used in this invention may include a variety of threads conventionally proposed for anti-falsification, such as gold-silver thread, hologram thread, magnetic thread, fluorescent thread and the like. The gold-silver thread, for example, is made by vacuum-evaporating and depositing metal aluminum over a polyester film, applying a protective resin coating to the aluminum-deposited surface, and slitting it into a thread by a micro-slitter. By coloring the protective resin coating in yellow, the thread thus formed has a golden color. The thread is preferably applied with a heat sensitive adhesive, which is activated by heat in the dry zone in the paper making machine to make the adhesion between the thread and the paper more secure.

As to the dimension of the mold 13 attached to the cylinder 12a of this invention, the length X in the direction of flow W of the paper layer shown in Figure 5 is

preferably set to 5-30 mm and the lateral length Z shown in Figure 1 perpendicular to the flow direction to 10-50 mm. This size of the mold 13 corresponds to that of the window portion 1 of the paper shown in Figure 1. When the window portion 1 is smaller than this range, the letters or pictures watermarked in the window portion 1 become too small; and when the window portion 1 is larger than this range, the exposed length of the thread 5 becomes too long, degrading the appearance in terms of balance of design.

The anti-falsification paper of this invention is manufactured ordinarily at a basis weight of 70-150 g/m². The ratio of combination between the outermost paper layer and the other paper layer is preferably set in a range of between 20:80 and 80:20. When, for example, two-layer combination paper with a basis weight of 100 g/m² has a combination ratio of 20:80, this means that the paper comprises 20 g/m² of the outermost paper layer and 80g/m² of the other paper layer. If the combination ratio of the outermost layer is less than 20, the watermarked letters or pictures likely fail to be defined clearly. When the combination ratio exceeds 80, the watermarks will easily collapse.

In the above-described example method of this invention, a plain paper layer with no windows or watermarks is formed in the first vat 11 (in front of the final vat), and then the outermost layer having the window portions and the watermarks is formed in the second vat 12 (the final vat), as shown in Figure 4. This method, however, may be transformed into the configuration shown in Figure 6, in which the outermost paper layer having the window portions and the watermarks is formed in the first vat 21 and the plain paper layer is formed in the second vat 22 (final vat). In this case, the molds 23 for forming the window portions and watermarks are attached to the entire circumference of the face wire of the cylinder 21a in the first vat 21 by a means similar to the one described above. Perforated portions 23a in the molds 23 used to watermark letters or pictures are, as shown in Figure 7, reversed from those shown in Figure 5.

Example 1

Preparation of stock

20 parts by weight of NBKP and 80 parts by weight of LBKP were mixed and beaten into slurry having 350 ml C.S.F., to which were added 10 parts by weight of china clay, 0.3 parts by weight of paper strength agent (trade name "Polystroton 191" manufactured by Arakawa Kagaku Kogyo K.K.), 1.0 part by weight of sizing agent (trade name "Sizepine E" manufactured by Arakawa Kagaku Kogyo K.K.) and an appropriate amount of aluminum sulphate to prepare paper stock.

Manufacture of wire cloth

A number of resin plates, 10 mm wide by 25 mm long by 0.3 mm thick, were prepared. They were perforated at portions 13a 1.2 mm wide to form letters "A" and "B" and these perforated portions were arranged at equal intervals to form the molds 13 (Figure 5). Then, the face wire 12b (1300 mm wide) of the cylinder of the cylinder paper machine was bonded with the molds 13 of resin plates by using an adhesive, so that the molds were arranged in line at 5 mm intervals in the direction of flow W of the paper layer. Six such lines of molds were arranged on the face wire 12b at equal intervals in the lateral direction.

Paper forming

In the cylinder paper machine having two vats as shown in Figure 4, the cylinder 11a in the first vat is provided with a face wire that has no mold while the cylinder 12a in the second vat is mounted with a face wire 12b having the molds 13. The above-described paper stock was deposited on these wires at the rate of 50 m/min. to form a first paper layer 4 from the first vat and a second paper layer 3 (outermost layer) from the second vat, with the second layer overlying the first layer to form two-layer combined sheet. During this process, a gold-silver thread 1.0 mm wide and 15 μ m thick was inserted between the first layer (a dry weight equivalent of 50 g/m²) and the second layer (a dry weight equivalent of 50 g/m²) at a location corresponding to the center of the molds 13 by using a method proposed in the above-described Japanese Patent Publication No. 5-40080/1993. Next, the wet web was dewatered in the ordinary way and then dried by a cylinder drier, thus forming the anti-falsification paper made of two-layer combination paper. The paper thus formed was found to have window portions 1 whose length X in the longitudinal direction of the paper is 10 mm and the non-window portions 6 whose length Y in the same direction is 5 mm, with letters "A" and "B" 1.2 mm wide watermarked in the window portions 1 and with the thread 5 exposed at the window portions 1 and embedded between the paper layers at the non-window portions 6. When the paper was wound in a roll by a winder of the paper making machine, no cockles formed even after 6000 meters of paper had been wound.

Industrial Applicability of the Invention

According to the method of this invention described above and the anti-falsification paper produced with this method, the following significant advantages are obtained.

- 1) Because the watermarked letters or pictures 2 and the exposed portion of the thread 5 are both located inside the window portions 1, the anti-falsi-

fication paper has good appearance in terms of design. When the paper is subjected to printing, the limitation on the design to be printed that arises when the watermarks 2 and the exposed portions of the thread 5 are formed in different locations can be eliminated. Such limitation includes, for example, a problem that the printing area is reduced when printing of a decorative design is desirable.

2) When the paper is wound continuously in a roll by the winder of the paper making machine, this invention can prevent the formation of cockles, which would otherwise be produced due to localized increase in paper thickness caused by the inserted thread. This permits the use of a rotary printing machine to print the rolled paper, making a significant improvement in printing efficiency over the use of bundle-finished paper.

3) When securities and the like made of this paper are stacked up in large numbers, the stack can be handled easily and will not easily collapse because there is no localized bulge at the thread-inserted portion. Similarly, when a large number of securities are stacked for automatic OCR reading machine, easy handling is assured as they have no localized bulge at the thread-inserted portion.

Because of these advantages, the anti-falsification paper of this invention can be suitably applied to bank notes, checks, stock certificates, bonds, gift certificates, cards, confidential documents, passports, identification cards, etc.

Claims

1. Anti-falsification paper comprising:
 combination paper at least two paper layers including an outermost layer and the other layer;
 window portions provided in the outermost layer so that they are arranged at intervals in a longitudinal direction of the outermost layer;
 watermarks of letters or pictures formed in the window portions; and
 a thread inserted between the outermost layer and the other layer, the thread being exposed at the window portions.
2. Anti-falsification paper according to claim 1, wherein a ratio of a length (X) of the window portions in the longitudinal direction of the paper to a length (Y) in the same direction of non-window portions between the window portions is 3:1 to 1:2.
3. Anti-falsification paper according to claim 1, wherein a length (X) of the window portions in the longitudinal direction of the paper is 5-30 mm and a length (Z) of the window portions in the lateral

direction of the paper is 10-50 mm.

4. Anti-falsification paper according to claim 1, wherein a ratio of combination between the outermost layer and the other layer is 20:80 to 80:20.
5. A method of making anti-falsification paper comprising the steps of:

in making combination paper having at least two paper layers including an outermost layer and the other layer by using a cylinder paper machine provided with multiple vats;

(a) forming the other layer in a vat in front of a final vat and then forming in the final vat the outermost layer having window portions arranged at intervals in a direction of flow of the paper layer and also having watermarks of letters or pictures in the window portions; or

(b) forming in a first vat the outermost layer having window portions arranged at intervals in a direction of flow of the paper layer and also having watermarks of letters or pictures formed in the window portions, and then forming in a second or subsequent vat the other layer; and

before putting the outermost layer and the other layer together, inserting a thread between the layers so that the thread runs through the window portions of the outermost layer; whereby combination paper is produced, in which the watermarks are formed in the window portions of the outermost layer and the thread is exposed at the window portions.

6. A method of making anti-falsification paper according to claim 5, wherein a plurality of molds having dimensions corresponding to the window portions and formed with perforated portions for watermarking the letters or pictures are mounted at intervals in a circumferential direction of a face wire of a cylinder in the cylinder paper machine, and this cylinder is used to form the outermost layer of paper.
7. A method of making anti-falsification paper according to claim 6, wherein the plurality of molds are mounted at intervals in a circumferential direction of the face wire of the cylinder so that a ratio of a length (X) of the window portions to a length (Y) of non-window portions between the window portions is 3:1 to 1:2.
8. A method of making anti-falsification paper according to claim 6 or 7, wherein the dimensions of the molds are so set that their length (X) in the direction

of flow of the paper layer is 5-50 mm and their lateral length (Z) perpendicular to the direction of flow of the paper layer is 10-50 mm.

9. A method of making anti-falsification paper according to claim 5, wherein the outermost layer and the other layer are combined so that a ratio of combination between the outermost layer and the other layer is 20:80 to 80:20.

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FIG. 1

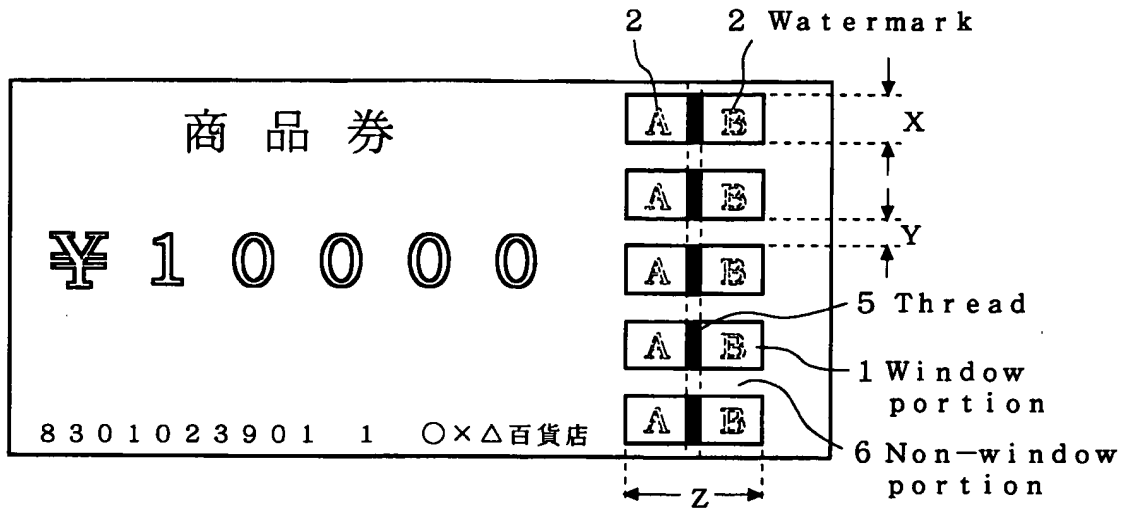


FIG. 2

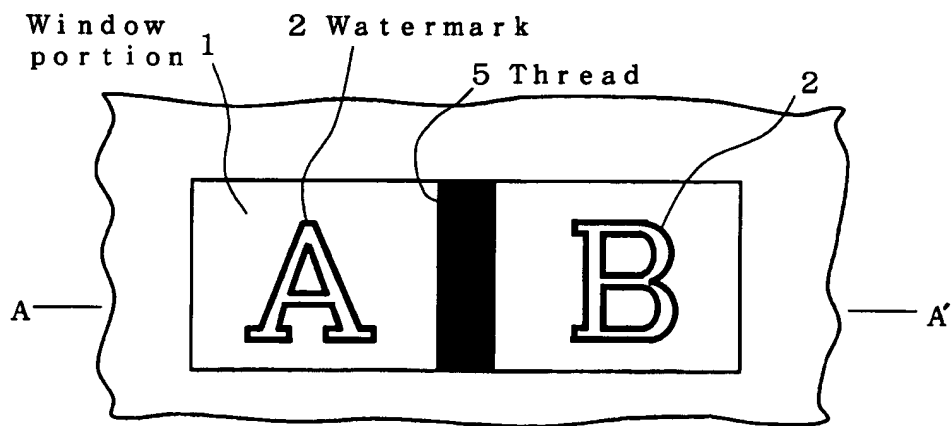


FIG. 3

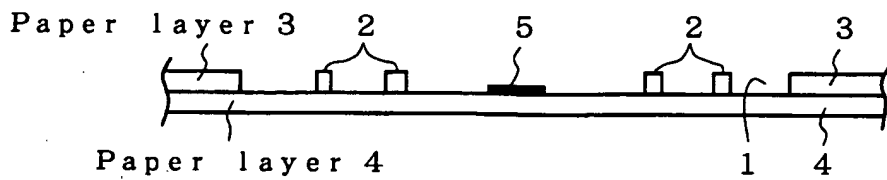


FIG. 4

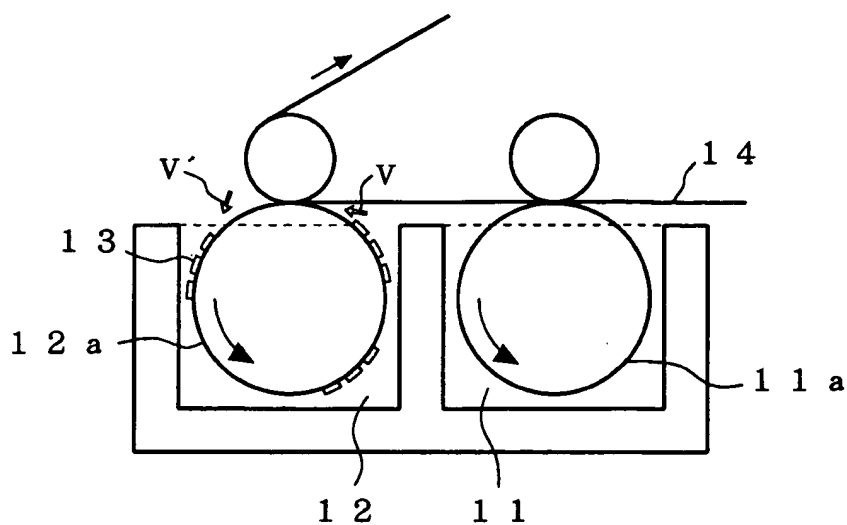


FIG. 5

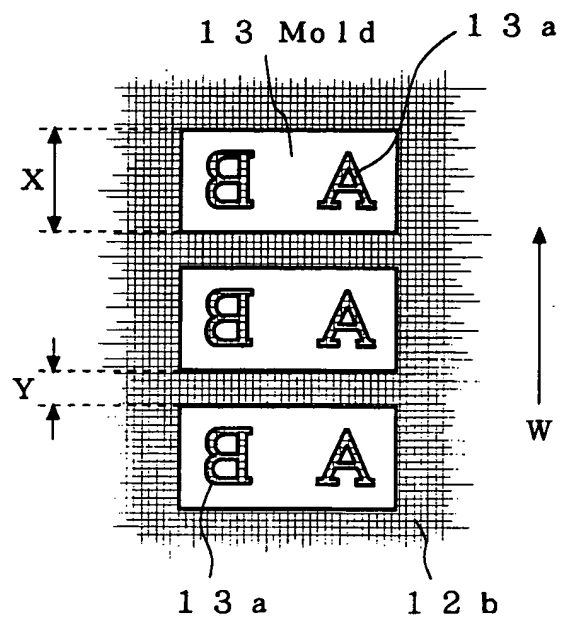


FIG. 6

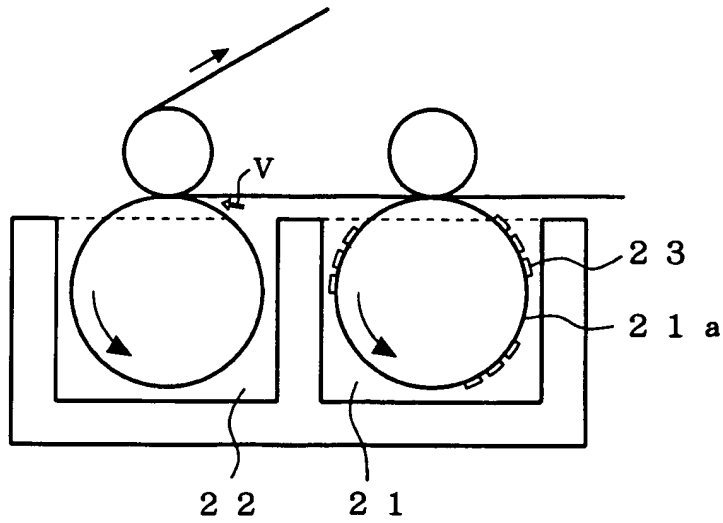
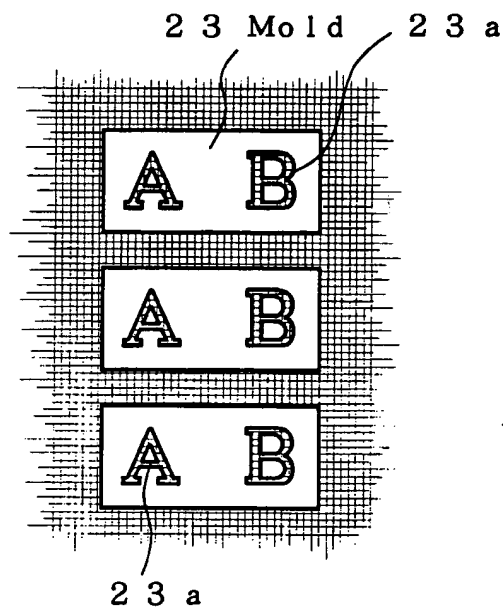


FIG. 7



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP97/00719

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
Int. Cl ⁶ D21H21/42, D21H21/40, D21F11/08, D21F1/44, B42D15/10		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
Int. Cl ⁶ D21H21/40-21/48, D21F11/00-11/08, D21F1/44-1/46, B42D15/10		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1940 - 1996 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971 - 1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1995 - 1997		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP, 7-62320, B2 (Portals Ltd.), July 5, 1995 (05. 07. 95), Claim 6 Page 4, column 7, lines 10 to 28 & EP, 319157, A & DE, 3840557, A & AU, 8825128, A & DK, 8806743, A & GB, 2213098, A & FI, 8805642, A & BR, 8806353, A & JP, 2006694, A & CN, 1034079, A & US, 4943093, A & DE, 3840557, C & GB, 2213098, B & EP, 319157, B1 & ES, 2029971, T1 & CA, 1316958, C & ES, 2029971, T3 & FI, 89394, B & PH, 27431, A	1 - 9
A	US, 4462866, A (Portals Ltd.), July 31, 1984 (31. 07. 84), Claim 1 & EP, 59056, A & BR, 8200872, A & DK, 8200714, A & ES, 8306453, A & CA, 1170880, A & EP, 59056, B & DE, 3263343, G & KR, 8600702, B	1 - 9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
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Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
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A	JP, 50-52309, A (Sanyo Seishi K.K.), May 9, 1975 (09. 05. 75), Claim (Family: none)	5 - 9

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